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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

e the Application of: Nobuyuki MORIYAMA et al.

Group Art Unit: 3725

Application No.: 10/827,311

Examiner: Shelley M. Self

Filed: April 20, 2004

Confirmation No.: 2563

For:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CENTERING A LOG

Attorney Docket Number:

042348

Customer Number:

38834

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 April 25, 2006

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Official Action dated April 19, 2006.

In the Action, Applicants are required to elect one of the following groups of claims for prosecution in this application:

Group (I)

Claims 1-3, drawn to a method of centering a log; or

Group (II)

Claims 4-8, drawn to an apparatus for centering a log.

Applicants hereby elect the subject matter of Group II, Claims 4-8. This election is made without traverse, it being understood that the Applicants' rights to the filing of a divisional application directed to the non-elected subject matter under 35 U.S.C. §120 and 35 U.S.C. §121 are retained.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. If any additional fees are due in connection with this paper, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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